



**Fall 2007 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AAUW-BN  
Bloomington-Normal High School Senior Essay Contest Awards Ceremony**  
to be held Friday, November 9, 2007 (7:00pm) at Barnes & Noble's Booksellers in Bloomington



**About the Fall 2007 AAUW High School Senior Essay Contest**

The Bloomington-Normal Branch of AAUW sponsored this *Fall 2007 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual AAUW-BN Bloomington-Normal High School Senior Essay Contest* to encourage our young adults to reflect upon issues of equity and diversity that impact their personal, professional, and civic lives. Bloomington-Normal high school seniors (12<sup>th</sup> grade) were eligible to submit one original 500 word essay addressing the importance of promoting equity (women) and/or diversity (multi-cultural) pertaining to: Civil Rights, Education, Workplace Issues.

**Winners of the Essay Contest**

The AAUW Essay Contest Review Committee reviewed the 16 essays from two Bloomington-Normal high schools submitted. After careful consideration and deliberative discussion, we are delighted to announce the following results:

***1st Place Award and Certificate (and a \$125 1<sup>st</sup> Place Award sponsored by AAUW-BN):***

**Yuxi Tian (UHS)**, daughter of Steven Tian and Karen Liu of Bloomington, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

***2nd Place Award and Certificate (and a \$100 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award sponsored by ISU Physics):***

**Abigail Hoekstra (UHS)**, daughter of John and Jody Hoekstra of Bloomington, her NCHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

***3rd Place Award and Certificate (and a \$75 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Award sponsored by ISU's American Democracy Project):***

**Claire Vogel (NCHS)**, daughter of Paul and Trudy Vogel of Bloomington, her NCHS Contact Teacher was Amy Scott

***Finalist Awards:***

**Anna Doran (UHS)** receives a **\$50 Finalist Award sponsored by ISU's American Democracy Project**, Anna is the daughter of Joy and Steve Doran of Towanda, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Kathleen Johnson (UHS)** receives a **\$50 Finalist Award sponsored by ISU Physics**, Kathleen is the daughter of Todd and Carol Johnson of Normal, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Taiyo Wilson (UHS)** receives a **\$50 Finalist Award sponsored by ISU Physics**, Taiyo is the son of Ray and Akiko Wilson of Normal, his UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

***Receiving Certificates of Honorable Mention:***

**Ellen Clay (UHS)**, daughter of Jordan and Clare Clay of Bloomington, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Leanne Downey (UHS)**, daughter of Gilbert and Patricia Downey of Normal, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Jenna Floyd (UHS)**, daughter of Sheri and Thomas Floyd of Bloomington, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Michael Fritz (UHS)**, son of Richard and Gina Fritz of Normal, his UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Dan Grieco (UHS)**, son of Gerardo and Debra Grieco of Bloomington, his UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Cheryl Liang (UHS)**, daughter of Charles and Chin Chin Liang of Bloomington, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Aaron Michaels (UHS)**, son of Carol and Gregory Michaels of Bloomington, his UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Madhuri Paravastu (UHS)**, daughter of Shankar and Sudha Paravastu of Bloomington, her UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Neesath Shah (UHS)**, son of Nilesh and Sharmila Shah of Bloomington, his UHS Contact Teacher was Kathleen Clesson

**Weikang Sun (UHS)**, son of Jianhai Sun and Qiaofang Chen of Normal, his UHS Contact Teacher was Jean Gorski and Kathleen Clesson

AAUW-BN Branch, the Illinois State University Physics Department, and the Illinois State University American Democracy Project congratulates all Scholarship Award Winners and Honorable Mention Honorees. AAUW-BN will present the recognition certificates and award checks at the **AAUW-BN Essay Contest Awards Ceremony to be held November 9, 2007 (7:00pm) at Barnes & Noble Booksellers** in Bloomington, Illinois. Each high school's Contact Teachers with students participating in the essay contest will also be recognized. Students and their parents or guardians, their teachers, and their family and friends are also invited to attend. A reception with light refreshments will follow the Awards Ceremony.

**About the Bloomington-Normal Branch of AAUW**

The Bloomington-Normal Branch was founded in 1913 (District 2). AAUW is a nationwide organization of graduates of regionally accredited United States colleges and universities or foreign institutions recognized by the International Federation of University Women. AAUW concerns itself with enhancing the intellectual and cultural life of the individual; supporting legislation; working to improve education; increasing options and total awareness; securing equal opportunities; and study, then action. In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.



***The American Association of University Women promotes equity for all women and girls, lifelong education, and positive societal change.***

For more information about this event -- please contact Grace Foote Johns ([johns@phy.ilstu.edu](mailto:johns@phy.ilstu.edu) or 309-438-8758) or visit our website ([www.aauw-il.org/bloom](http://www.aauw-il.org/bloom)). This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting Grace Foote Johns at ISU Physics (309-438-8758, voice or [johns@phy.ilstu.edu](mailto:johns@phy.ilstu.edu)). If you need a special accommodation to fully participate in this program/event, please contact Grace Foote Johns at ISU Physics (309-438-8758, voice or [johns@phy.ilstu.edu](mailto:johns@phy.ilstu.edu)). Please allow sufficient time (at least 1 week) to arrange the accommodation. If you have special dietary needs, please contact Grace Foote Johns at ISU Physics (309-438-8758, voice or [johns@phy.ilstu.edu](mailto:johns@phy.ilstu.edu))